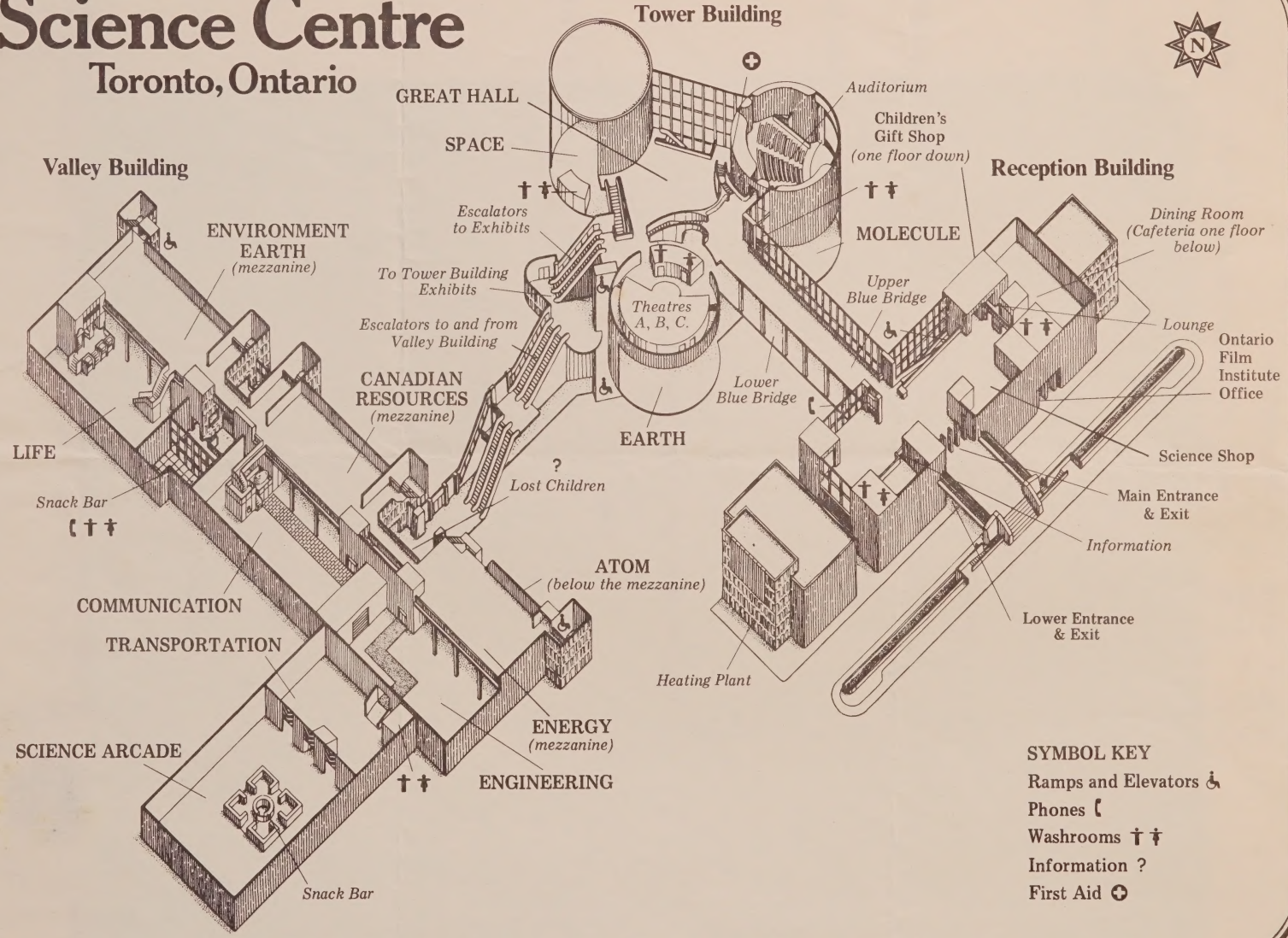
Science Centre
Toronto, Ontario



SYMBOL KEY

Ramps and Elevators ♿

Phones

Washrooms

Information ?

First Aid

Digitized by the Internet Archive
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CLIR DHC Grant 2026-2028

https://archive.org/details/2174.05.11

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP

OF

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

1979

EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Lake Byrd Conference Center

Avon Park, Florida

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

LAKE BYRD CONFERENCE CENTER

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

SINGSPIRATION
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Rev. Troy Perry
*THE OPENING HYMN - "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
*THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

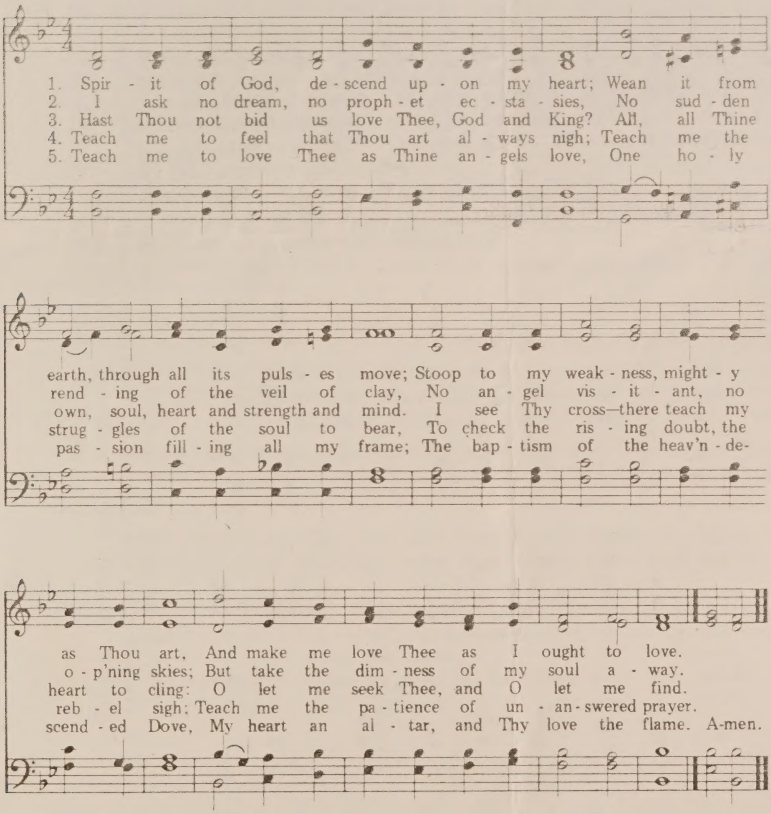
(L) We are here, at this conference because we have collected the hurts and hatreds of living through another year.
(P). We gather as a wounded people.
(L). We are here because we have also seen joy and hope, creativity and new life in the year we gave lived through.
(P): We gather as a wondering people.
(L). We are here because we know and believe that God-in-Christ is the power that brings life together and makes it whole.
(P). We gather as a worshipping people. We begin again, and celebrate Christ's victory over death, our victory over despair and hopelessness. We gather not to relive the past, but to be renewed that we might build the future.

THE ANCIENT WITNESS
The Old Testament Lesson
The Epistle
The Gospel Lesson
THE CONTEMPORARY WITNESS
*THE RESPONSE - The Gloria
THE SERMON
*THE HYMN - "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"
THE PASTORAL PRAYER
THE OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS
*THE RESPONSE - The Doxology
THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION
*THE GENERAL CONFESSION

(L): O God, forgive us because we would rather be religious than faithful.
(P). Forgive us when our theology becomes a substitute for loving action.
(L). Forgive us when we use secularity as an excuse for self-indulgence.
(P): Teach us, like your servant Abraham, to set out into the unknown.
(L). Help us to be more concerned with the response to persons than with answers to problems.
(P) Keep us from despair and smugness. Open us to your judgment that we may be healed.
(L): When we are tempted to disillusionment at the possibility of being a servant people,
(P). Help us to remember the One who gave all that we might be reconciled. AMEN.

SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART

George Croly, 1854

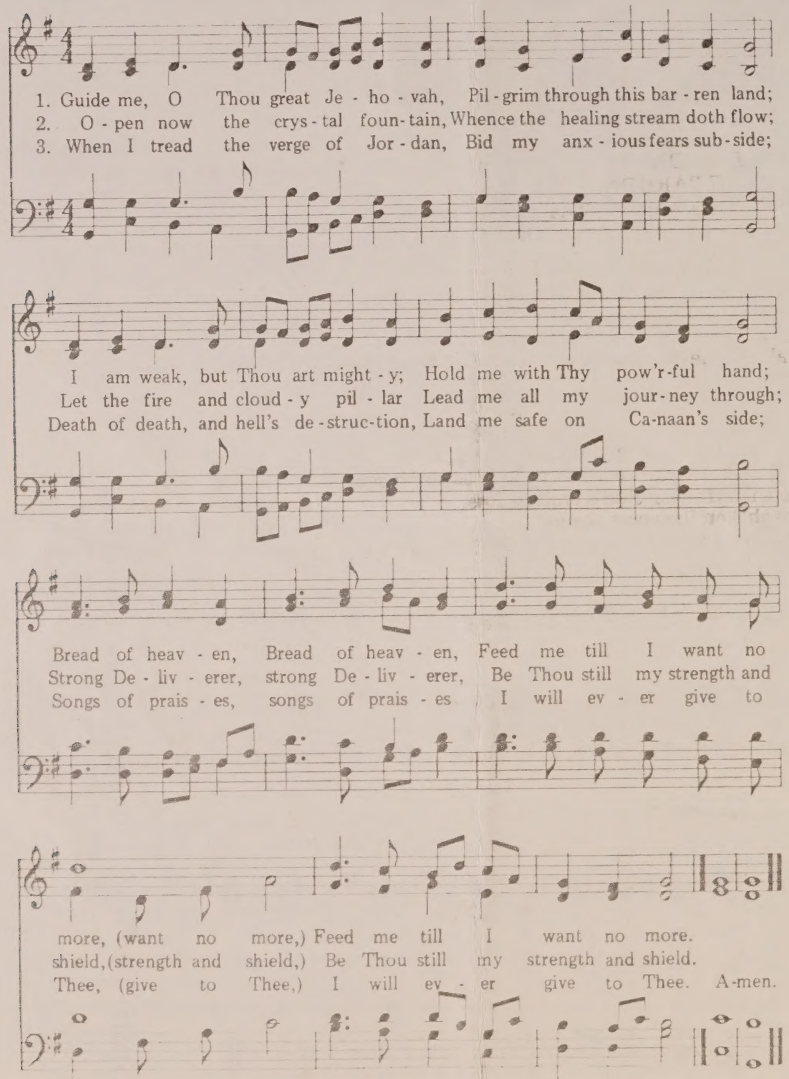
MORECAMBE 10 10 10 10
Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Gal 5.25

GUIDE ME O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

William Williams. 1745
Trans. by Peter Williams and
William Williams. 1771

CWM RHONDDA 8 7 8 7 8 7
John Hughes. 1907



"Walk about Zion, go round about, number the towers, consider the ramparts, go through the citadels; that you may tell the next generation that this God is our God forever and ever. This God will be our guide forever and ever." PSALM 48:12-14

*THE SILENT CONFESSION - as we apply what we have read together to our own lives.
*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON
THE INSTITUTION AND CONSECRATION
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
*THE LITANY OF PRAISE

(L): O give thanks to the Lord, who is God.
(P): For God's love and concern are endless.
(L): Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.
(P) That is, all people who know the feeling of freedom and newness of life.
(L): Some of us had fallen into the very depths of despair.
(P) Broken, afraid and lonely, we hid in ourselves.
(L): Then we cried to the Lord in our great pain.
(P): And God enabled us to begin to be set free.
(L): We received the support needed to help us stand again.
(P): Let us be thankful for God's endless love.
(L): For Yahweh's endless care for us!
(P): Let us offer our whole selves in thanksgiving, and joyfully proclaim God's salvation.

*THE SENDING FORTH

(L): Go with new vision of the Christ.
(P): We go to announce Christ's presence among all peoples of the world.
(L): Grace and peace go with you.
(P): Alleluia, Amen!

*THE CLOSING HYMN - "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine, O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine,
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, Born of the Spir-it, Wash'd in the blood.

CHORUS

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, Prais-ing my Sav-ior, all the day long;
This is my sto-ry, this is my song, Prais-ing my Sav-ior, all the day long.

2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, Vis-ions of rap-ture burst on my sight,
An-gels des-cend-ing, bring from a-bove, e-chos of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.

CHORUS (repeated)

(* - the people will please stand)

Rev. Marge Ragona
E. Min Conf 1979

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029 (213) 464-5100

March 22, 1979

This will confirm our receipt of your registration for Eastern Ministers' Conference. The final schedule appears below. Please remember that the Lodge no longer provides linens, you must bring your own.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

9:30 - 10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00 - 12:00	STI Seminar "Inclusive Language" the Rev. Jeffrey Pulling
	OR
	Free Time
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	MCAC Sub-committee on Standards
2:00 - 4:00	STI Seminar "Inclusive Language" - continued
	OR
	Free Time
4:00 - 6:00	Free Time
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:00 - 9:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" Dr. Clarence Snelling
9:00 -	Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

8:30 - 9:30	Breakfast
9:30 - 12:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 5:00	Free Time
5:00 - 6:00	Dinner
6:00 - 8:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
8:00 - 9:00	Worship Service

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

9:00 - 10:00	Breakfast
10:00 - 12:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 4:00	STI Seminar "MCC and Ecumenical Relations" the Rev. Nancy Wilson
	OR
	Free Time
4:00 - 6:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:30 - 8:30	Closing Remarks

E Min Conf

SURVEY RESULTS FROM WESTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE 1979

1. Which of the following facilities would you prefer for next year's Ministers' Conference? Consider cost factors.)

57.1 %	Camp or retreat center
34.7 %	Hotel
8.2 %	Other; Local MCC hosting specified

2. What length conference do you prefer?

6.5 %	two days
76.1 %	three days
17.4 %	four days

3. This conference should be scheduled for:

77.8 %	mid-week
22.2 %	week-end

4. The major emphasis of the conference should be:

Ø %	Rest, relaxation and sharing
6.3 %	Continuing Education
91.7 %	As close to an equal emphasis of the two above as possible
2.1 %	Other; more worship specified

5. The major program speaker(s) should be

0 %	From within UFMCC
29.8 %	From outside UFMCC
70.2 %	Both

6. Who should be invited to attend? Please Check one or more.

100 %	UFMCC Clergy
59.6 %	Currently Active Worship Coordinators
85.1 %	Spouses/lovers/mates/guests of clergy and/or worship coord.
4.2 %	UFMCC Deacons
19.1 %	UFMCC Exhorters
Ø %	Other

7. What locations do you prefer for the conferences?

16.6 %	Always within the LA area
16.6 %	Variable within California
56.3 %	Variable west of the Mississippi River
2.1 %	Specified Mid-point
2.1 %	Specified California and Pacific Northwest
2.1 %	Specified San Francisco
4.1 %	Specified Laguna Beach

(over)

8. Who would you most like to hear preach at a Minister's Conference?

3	Alla Bozarth Campbell
7	New/young ministers
8	Elders
1	Evangelistic Ministers
1	Carol Cureton
1	Malcolm Boyd
1	No One
1	Freda Smith
2	Troy Perry
1	Harvey Cox (Harvard Divinity)
1	Gordon Cosby
1	Don Eastman
1	Ellen Barrett
1	Norman Pittenger
1	non-MCC luminary

9. Should STI Seminars be offered during conferences?

71.7 %	Yes
8.7 %	No
19.6 %	Before or After, but not during

E. MIN. CONF 1979

February 6, 1979

TO: UFMCC Professional Ministers and Worship Coordinators

FROM: UFMCC Administrative Offices

WHAT: EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

WHERE: Lake Byrd Conference Center, Avon Park, FL

WHEN: Tuesday, April 17 through Thursday, April 19, 1979

COST: $53.00 per person (includes housing, meals and access to conference activities for three days; attendees must provide sheets, pillow cases and towels.)

Registration is open to all UFMCC professional ministers and currently active worship coordinators, together with their spouses, mates, significant others, etc. (Depending on time and space registrictions, the professional training seminar offered as the conference program may be open to clergy and worship coordinators only.)

Dr. Clarence Snelling, a professor at Iliff Theological Seminary in Denver, CO, will be conducting a professional training seminar centering on "Ministry and Conflict Management." The seminar will be a 9-hour program, held over the three days of the conference.

In addition, two STI Seminars will be scheduled for your convenience. They are described in the enclosed flyer; cost is $10 per person and may be taken for credit by those officially enrolled in STI or audited by others. (Your spouse, etc. is certainly invited to participate if (s)he is interested in doing so.)

The Ministerial Credentials and Affairs Committee will present material from both the Concerns and Standards Sub-committees and will schedule appointments for interview teams to meet with applicants for ordination candidacy during this conference. Appointments should be requested by writing the Rev. Jim Dykes, Chairperson, MCAC, 1076 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Because of the pre-planning required for the camp and the food preparation, we must require pre-registration -- please make arrangements to register now!

REMEMBER! The Conference Center has discontinued the linen service. You must provide your own sheets, pillowcases and towels. Blankets will be provided.

WANT A QUESTION ANSWERED? Let us know if you have a question or area of concern that you feel should be covered. Of course we can't promise, but we'll try to see that you have all the information that your need.

Dont't forget -- registration should be postmarked no later than March 15, 1979.

EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
(Tentative Schedule)

Tuesday, April 17

9:30 - 10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00 - 12:00	MCAC Sub-committee Reports & Discussion
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 5:00	STI Seminar "Inclusive Language" the Rev. Jeffrey Pulling OR Workshop - "Spiritual Exercises" the Rev. Sandy Taylor OR Free Time
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:00 - 9:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" Dr. Clarence Snelling

Wednesday, April 18

8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 - 10:30	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 3:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
3:00 - 6:00	Free Time
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:30 - 9:00	Worship Service

Thursday, April 19

8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 - 10:30	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - continued
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	"Ministry and Conflict Management" - conclusion
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Free Time
2:00 - 6:00	STI Seminar "MCC & Ecumenical Relations" the Rev. Nancy Wilson OR Free Time
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:30 - 8:30	Closing Remarks

Universal Fellowship of
Metropolitan Community Churches

November 6, 1976

PROCEDURE LETTER:

In response to the question: Are ministers required to attend General Conference, District Conferences and/or Ministers' Conferences? If yes, are the local churches responsible for funding these trips?

Attendance at these various conferences is not specifically covered in the By-Laws of the UFMCC nor has it been the subject of action by the General Conference. Therefore, attendance can not be said to be required by the Fellowship.

It should be noted that the By-Laws adopted by the General Conference specify a quorum of 80% of all eligible lay and clergy delegates and by this action has at least implied a responsibility for these delegates to be present.

Although the Board of Elders is in no position to direct the budget or expenditures of any local church body, our counsel to the local groups is to encourage them to prayerfully consider their obligations to support the ministry of their selected spiritual leaders as well as the ministry of the Fellowship of which they are an integral part.

We encourage local leaders and Boards of Directors to include conference expenses in any contractual agreements negotiated.

District Conferences and Ministers' Conferences are often viewed by the local church groups as wasted time away from home or as "vacations" inflicted upon them by someone else. Viewed in this context they are reluctant to fund or even sanction the participation by their ministers in these events.

We would suggest that you consider these conferences as times in which your ministers are refreshed and equipped with professional skills with which they might better serve you. In this, as in all investments by your congregations, you will benefit and be blessed only to the degree with which you joyfully participate.

Respectfully Submitted,
FOR THE BOARD OF ELDERS

Carol S. Cureton

(Rev.) Carol S. Cureton, Clerk

Reverend Troy D. Perry [illegible]der
International Offices: Post Office Box 5570, Los Angeles, CA 90055 † (213) 680-2111

1979 EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Return this form, post marked no later than March 15, 1979. Registration must be prepaid. Make checks payable to UFMCC Ministers' Conference and mail to: UFMCC, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029. Each minister/worship coordinator should complete an individual registration form; only couples should register together.

NAME(S) _____

_____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

Yes, I (we) will be attending Eastern Ministers' Conference. I enclose the following:

REGISTRATION FEE ($53.00 per person)	$ _____
STI SEMINAR(S) (optional) ($10.00 each/person)	
"Inclusive Language: Why and How" - Rev. Pulling	_____
"MCC and the Church Universal, Ecumenical Relations" - Rev. Wilson	_____
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	$ _____

Here is my travel information. I understand that I may be unable to secure housing and transportation before and after conference if this information is not included.

I am requesting housing for the following nights: _____

_____

I am a smoker [ ]; I am a nonsmoker [ ].

I will arrive in Tampa on April (date) _____.

I will arrive by car [ ], train [ ], bus [ ], airline [ ] at approximately

_____ o'clock. (Please specify AM or PM.) If arriving by air, please specify:

Airline _____, Flight # _____, Airport _____.

For my return trip, I will need transportation to arrive at the bus station/

train station/airport (circle one) on April _____ at _____ AM/PM.

[ ] I do not require local transportation or housing; I have made my own arrangements.

Date _____ Signed _____

(over)

E Min. Conf.
1979

SAMARITAN SEMINARS

for

MINISTERS' CONFERENCES 1979

Western Minister's Conference January 16 - 18, 1979
Cottontail Ranch, Malibu Canyon, California

Eastern Minister's Conference April 17 - 19, 1979
Lake Byrd Lodge, Avon Park, Florida

SAMARITAN THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 104, Los Angeles, CA 90029
(213) 464-5106

Samaritan Theological Institute is the officially recognized educational institution of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. STI is accredited by the Board of Elders of the UFMCC to train students for the professional Christian ministry and to provide continuing educational opportunities for UFMCC clergy and laity. The Institute adheres to traditional Christian doctrines and also recognized continuing and new revelations of God, of which the birth and ministry of Metropolitan Community Church is an example. STI has made a special effort to be open to women, who are often denied ministerial training in other schools. Gender, sexual orientation, age, race, and nationality are not factors in the accepting of students.

STI recognizes its responsibility to offer training for the special needs of MCC's ministry as well as for the broader aspects of the Christian ministry. Because of this – in addition to the traditional courses that most seminaries offer – STI also provides courses that cover sexuality and homosexuality, the contributions of women, and inclusive images of God in the context of the Scriptures and the Christian tradition. The developing theology and ethics, and the polity and programs of the UFMCC are also taught.

The first priority of STI is to offer a full educational program for its resident students in Los Angeles. There are, however, many opportunities for clergy and ministerial students throughout the Fellowship to take advantage of Samaritan training through correspondence courses and through one-day seminars which are offered at various places.

RESIDENT FACULTY

The Rev. Jim Dykes, M. Div., President
The Rev. Jeffrey Pulling, M. Div., Dean
The Rev. Robert Arthur, M.A.
The Rev. Richard Mickley, B.A.
The Rev. Elder James Sandmire, M.A.

EXTENSION FACULTY

Mr. Dennis Tracy, M.A.
The Rev. Robert Twar, B.A.
The Rev. Angie Umbertino, STI degree
The Rev. Karen Wheeler, M.A.
The Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, B.A.

VISITING LECTURERS

The Rev. Lucia Chappelle, B.A., STI degree
Mr. James Coomes, M.S.W.
Dr. Lanny Dykes, M.D.
The Rev. Tere Ann Roderick
Mr. Al Smithson, J.D.

All Samaritan Seminars cost $10 per participant. Persons who are officially enrolled students of STI (whether resident or extension) may receive one (1) credit for each seminar they complete with a follow-up paper.

"MCC AND THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL, ECUMENICAL RELATIONS"

Led by the Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson

An exploration of denominationalism and ecumenism within Christianity with the purpose of looking at the phenomena of MCC within a historical and worldwide Christian context. The practical concerns of a local church attempting to relate to other Christian churches are considered, and the results of a survey of MCC congregations regarding ecumenical relations are examined.

The Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson is presently the pastor of MCC in Detroit, Michigan, after having served on the pastoral staffs of the MCC's in Boston and Worcester, Massachusetts. She was elected to the Board of Elders of the UFMCC in 1976. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Allegheny College, and has done graduate theological studies at Boston University School of Theology and at St. Cyril and Methodius Seminary.

"INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE: WHY AND HOW"

led by the Rev. Jeffrey Pulling

One of the most controversial issues in the UFMCC and in other Christian churches today is whether the language of the Scriptures and of worship should be "de-gendered" or made "non-sexist". This seminar approaches the issue from the positive note of making language "inclusive", contemporary, and true to the original meaning. The problems of mis-translation and mis-representation are considered, and time is spent on practical exercises translating the original Biblical words into inclusive English. Rev. Pulling strongly maintains that inclusive language is not "de-sexed" or de-personalizing words, but rather more meaningful language which gives us a fuller and more accurate picture of God and of humanity.

The Rev. Jeffrey Pulling is presently the Dean of Samaritan Theological Institute, after having served on the staff and faculty of STI and on the pastoral staffs of the MCC's in Boston, Massachusetts and Los Angeles, California. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Syracuse University, and a Master of Divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School. He has written numerous essays in Biblical studies and theology.

1978 EASTERN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

MARCH 9, 10, 11

LAKE BYRD LODGE, AVON PARK, FLORIDA

SCHEDULE:

Thursday, March 9	
9:00 to 10:00 am	Breakfast and Registration
10:00 to 11:00 am	WORSHIP SERVICE
Noon to 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 to 5:00 pm	S.T.I. SEMINARS
	S.O.S.: SPEAKING ON SEXUALITY Rev. Karen Wheeler & Rev. A.S. Umbertino
	OPERATION RESURRECTION: Renewal in the Local Church Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson
5:30 to 6:30 pm	Dinner
7:00 to 8:00 pm	Presentation: Subcommittee on Concerns of the Ministerial Credentials and Affairs Committee
Friday, March 10	
8:00 to 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 to 11:00 am	REPORT: The Subcommittee on Standards of the Ministerial Credentials and Affairs Committee
Noon to 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 to 5:00 pm	MANAGEMENT FOR MINISTRY -- Dr. Kenneth B. Woodside This seminar includes understanding management as a part of ministry, evaluation of leadership styles, time management, theology of power, etc. (Open to Professional Clergy only)
6:00 to 7:00 pm	Dinner
7:30 pm	WORSHIP SERVICE
Saturday, March 11	
8:00 to 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:30 to 11:00 am	MANAGEMENT FOR MINISTRY (Continued) See description above
Noon to 1:30 pm	S.T.I. SEMINARS (Repeated) See description above
	(Dr. Woodside will be available for consultation.)
6:00 to 7:00 pm	Dinner
7:30 pm	WORSHIP SERVICE

Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

The Reverend Carol S. Cureton, Clerk
P.O. Box 3147
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

- NOTES FROM THE CLERK -

PASTORS AND CLERKS: PLEASE SHARE THESE NOTICES WITH ALL CLERGY ON YOUR STAFF AND RESIDENT MINISTERS IN YOUR CITY.

MINISTER'S CONFERENCES:

WEST COAST - January 26-29. 1978 - Portland, Oregon
EAST COAST - March 9-12, 1978 - Lake Byrd Lodge, Florida (near Tampa)
(Specific program details will be forth coming.)

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MINISTER'S PACKETS THIS YEAR?
A good question! You should have received your church report forms already. The Church Services Department is now preparing Minister's/Worship Coordinator's report forms, and will be mailing them soon. New I.D. cards are being printed and will reflect the necessary change in expiration date, pursuant to the procedures for license and ordination.

A XEROXED LICENSE? If you received what appeared to be a xeroxed copy of your license you will be receiving a new one in about six weeks. We ran out of blank certificates at conference, and they too are being re-printed.

BY-LAWS Typed copies of the new by-laws are included in this packet, two copies to each church. Please share these copies with each other until the type-set copies are available. Church Services tells me that they should be ready for printing in about 3 weeks.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINISTRY -- WHAT ARE THEY NOW? Two copies of the current procedures and requirements for license and ordination in the UFMCC are included in this packet. Additional copies, with proper application forms,may be requested from Church Services Department.

PLEASE ORDER FROM THE PROPER SOURCE. Our service and response to your needs can be much improved if you will help us get orders to their proper places. If you need to order, or adjust your order for In Unity, or any books or pamphlets supplied by the Universal Fellowship Press, please address your order to the Publications Department. If you need certificates, I.D. cards, licenses, by-laws, Procedures for License/Ordination, please address your order to the Church Services Department. *If you include your order for supplies in a business or personal letter to one of the Elders, even the Moderator, we can not guarantee delivery.*

QUESTIONS? If you have a question that you think I can answer for you, drop me a note and I will try to get out periodic announcements for your information so that you might be kept up-to-date on happenings.

9/27/77

February 6, 1979

TO: UFMCC Professional Ministers and
Worship Coordinators

FROM: UFMCC Administrative Offices

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